



ADULT SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

City of Monroe Recreation Department

Revised 9/16



RULE I Playing Rules

- Section 1. Games shall be governed by the Adult League By-laws and the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Rules except as modified herein.

RULE II Contract, Eligibility

- Section 1. The roster of each team will be frozen after the date of their 6th scheduled game. No team will be allowed to add a player after this date other than the following two exceptions:
- (a) Returning service personnel may be added if the roster is not full.
 - (b) To prevent forfeits a team may add a player by releasing players to bring the total on the roster to 10 players for men's or women's teams or 5 men or 5 women for coed teams. For Coed leagues women may replace men. New players must be approved for eligibility and division classification by the League Director or the Director of Recreation.
- Section 2. Maximum of twenty (20) players per roster.
- Section 3. Actual birth date will be used to determine eligibility for the 50 and over league.
- Section 4. A player may play on a team in each division of a league. If a player participates in more than one division that player must declare only one of the teams to participate with for any post season tournaments and shall remain frozen to the declared team for the duration of the post season.

RULE III Game Administration

- Section 1. Up to 15 minutes into game time is forfeit time.
- Section 2. (a) Teams may start the game with eight (8) players, but must have nine (9) players officially reported to the scorekeeper before the 6th out of the 1st inning and throughout the remainder of the game to avoid a forfeit. If a 9th or 10th player shows up after the game has started, he/she must be added to the lineup in the 9th and 10th spaces respectively.
- (b) (Coed only) Coed teams can start with eight (8) players as long as at least four (4) are female. Coed teams must have nine (9) players officially reported to the scorekeeper before the 6th out of the first inning ends and through the remainder of the game to avoid a forfeit.
- (c) Teams in all leagues have the option of using as many EP's (extra players) as they wish. Removal of any EP will result in an out at each time the EP is due to bat.
- Section 3. (a) League games will be played with a 3-2 count as follows: Each batter will start his/her turn at bat with a 1 ball - 1 strike count. Each batter will have one foul ball to waste after the second strike.
- (b) A time limit of 1 hour will be in effect for all leagues. No inning shall start after 1 hour has elapsed. The inning in progress shall be completed and the results of the game shall be final unless it is tied.
- (c) If a game is tied after 1 hour and 5 complete innings have been played, the game will continue until a winner is determined.

- (d) Each team is allowed three warm-up pitches at the beginning of the first inning or when a player assumes the pitching position for the first time in the game. There are no warm-up pitches between half innings.
- Section 4. Home team will be the second team on schedule and will occupy the dugout that is on the same side as the home score on the scoreboard.
- Section 5. The team at bat is responsible for promptly chasing all foul balls and home run balls and returning them to the nearest fielder or the home plate umpire at the first dead ball opportunity.
- Section 6. Neither team can ever be more than one over the fence Home Run ahead of the other team at any time. ANYTHING IN EXCESS OF ONE HOME RUN AHEAD IS A SINGLE. Only exception: Men's Division 1 league (neither team can be more than 3 over the fence home runs ahead of the other team at any time).
- Section 7. Shoes with metal cleats are not allowed to be worn in Monroe Recreation softball leagues.
- Section 8. Players and spectators are not allowed in the upstairs scorekeeper's area at Munson Park.
- Section 9. Lineups must be turned into the scorekeeper 15 minutes prior to game time and must include each player's first and last name. Lineup sheets can be picked up from the scorekeeper on your field. Lineups can be changed until the 1st pitch of the game. All changes made after the 1st pitch of the game is thrown will be considered substitutions and all rules with regard to substitution will apply.
- Section 10. Managers are responsible for providing their own first aid supplies.
- Section 11. Substitutions: Each adult softball team will be allowed one courtesy runner per inning. The courtesy runner can be anyone on the team. For Coed only a woman can run for a woman.
- Section 12. Reentry Rule
- (a) If a player reenters the game illegally as a fielder or a runner, there is no penalty other than he must be removed from the game immediately when discovered.
 - (b) If the player reenters the game illegally as a batter, an out will be called if the illegal reentry is discovered after a pitch has been made to the illegally reentered batter and before a pitch is made to the next batter or before all infielders have left fair territory. If an illegal reentry is discovered before a pitch to the illegally reentered batter or after a pitch to the next batter, the illegal player is removed and replaced at the time of discovery.
 - (c) If a runner must be removed from the game due to injury or because he is discovered to be an illegally reentered player and cannot be replaced by a legal substitution, an out is called.
 - (d) A team must maintain the same number in the batting order that they had when the game was started. Exception: If they added a 9th or 10th batter after the game was started they must maintain that number throughout the rest of the game. If they lose a player or players for any reason (illness, injury, or ejection for examples) and do not have a legal substitute, an out shall be declared each time the removed player or player's time at bat is reached. Any player who has left the game under these circumstances cannot return to the lineup.
- Section 13. All Men's and Women's summer league teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 14 games, 12 games for Coed and 8 games for fall leagues.

Section 14. Umpires: The umpire's fees must be paid in cash to the umpires before the game begins.

NOTE: If for some reason only one (1) umpire shows up for an adult slow pitch softball game, each team will pay \$15.00. If the second umpire shows up before the start of the 2nd inning, each team will pay \$5.00 more, the total not to exceed \$20.00 per team per game.

Section 15. Additional Coed Rules

- (a) All batters shall hit a 12" ball.
- (b) The batting line up must alternate male and female. Exception: Females may bat in the place of a male, but males may not bat in place of a female. All men must bat in either the odd or even numbered positions in the batting order.
- (c) Traditionally, coed teams bat with a 10 batter line up; at least 5 batters must be female. Exception: To avoid a forfeit a team may bat with 9 batters. When batting 5 males and 4 females, the team must take an out each time the 5th woman is due to bat. Teams may bat 5 females and 4 males without taking an out when the 5th man is due to bat.
- (d) Coed teams have the option of using as many extra players (EP's) as they wish, but must have at least as many women in the batting lineup as men. An out is called for every excess man in the lineup. Examples: A team bats 7 men and 6 Women. An out will be called each time the spot for the 7th women is reached. A team could bat 7 women and 6 men without an out being called.
- (e) For coed league play, the ASA rule for fielding positions will not be enforced. Male/female defensive positioning is at the option of each team. For example, all four outfielders can be female.
- (f) A walk to a male batter will result in a 2 base award. A walk to a female batting in a male position will result in a one base award only.
- (g) If a male batter is awarded a base on balls, the next batter (female) will bat. Exception: Only when there are two outs if a male batter walks, the next batter (female) has the option to walk or bat, but once a pitch is thrown she must continue batting. This option is not given if a woman who is batting in a man's position is awarded a walk.
- (h) If a man walks and the next position in the batter order is unoccupied (the team takes an automatic out because a woman is not available). The male advances only to first base.

Section 16. At the time of pitch the pitcher must take a position with both feet firmly on the ground and with one or both feet in contact with or behind the pitchers plate.

Section 17. The mercy rule will be: 20 runs (3rd inning), 15 runs (4th inning) and 10 runs (5th inning).

RULE IV Scheduling

Section 1. Make up games.

- (a) Men and Women Leagues - Games will normally be made up on the first available date as determined by the Monroe Recreation Department.
- (b) The Monroe Recreation Department reserves the rights to reschedule or cancel make up games at its discretion, whichever is in the best interest of the program.

Section 2. For information of game cancellation due to inclement weather call the cancellation phone number printed on the league schedule.

- Section 3. Managers are responsible for contacting the League Director to find out the date and time of their rescheduled games. Failure of a team to show up for a rescheduled game will result in a forfeit.

RULE V Base Stealing

- Section 1. Base Stealing is not allowed.

RULE VI A.S.A. Fees

- Section 1. All teams entering the Monroe Recreation Adult Softball Program will automatically be registered A.S.A.